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## OUR 4TH OF JULY DIFFERENCES



### **The Declaration of Independence Meant Something Different to America's Not So Independent Slaves**

**Amy Goodman**

WHO WE ARE-"What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July?" asked Frederick Douglass (photo above) of the crowd gathered at Corinthian Hall in Rochester, NY, on July 5, 1852. "I answer," he continued, "a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him,...



### **Trumping Trump: Shun the Donald, Boycott His Palos Verdes Golf Course**

**Bob Gelfand**

GELFAND'S WORLD-I believe that it's really Donald Trump's hair. I seem to be unique in this belief. It's nice to be unique in some way, but what bothers me is that I have also been nearly unique, until now, in arguing that Trump should be shunned and boycotted. But times change. It's been a traumatic week both for Donald Trump and for the...



### **LA's Sidewalks: Penny Wise and Pound Foolish**

**Jack Humphreville**

LA WATCHDOG-The City of Los Angeles is expected to spend \$1.4 billion over the next 30 years to repair our sidewalks pursuant to a Settlement Agreement involving the Willits class action lawsuit that alleged that the City was not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. While the yet to be disclosed Settlement Agreement appears to...



### **Is It Really a Golden State or Is It Just One of Those Hollywood Illusions?**

**Dennis Zine**

JUST THE FACTS-Is Los Angeles really part of a Golden State or is it a place to remember as you move to greener pastures? I pose this question following my recent visit to Chicago and other cities east of the Rockies. My travels to the east coast were part of my reserve LAPD duty. I was part of the group of LAPD Reserve Officers escorting the...



### **Want to Save The Bullet Train, Governor ... Get Better Bullet Points!**

**Ken Alpern**

GETTING THERE FROM HERE-George W. Bush had Iraq. Barack Obama has ObamaCare. And

Jerry Brown has HIS bullet train. Not OUR bullet train, mind you, but HIS bullet train. And like Iraq, and like ObamaCare, the bullet train that was meant to help all of us, and which was promoted with great fanfare and wonderful intentions, has to survive the test of...



## **LA: Hit-and-Run Capital of the World May Be Getting an Alert System**

**Damien Newton**

LA'S STREETS - After last week's warning that CA Assemblymember Mike Gatto's legislation to create a "Yellow Alert" system was imperiled by Senate Transportation and Housing Committee staff and the California Highway Patrol's (CHP) objections, there was a feeling of a looming showdown before today's committee hearing. Assembly Bill 8 would create...



## **LA's Citywide Sign Ordinance: By, For and Of Special Interests**

**Barbara Broide**

IRATE PRIVATE CITIZEN'S OPEN LETTER-I write this letter not as a representative of my local homeowners association or neighborhood council, both of which have come out in support of the sign ordinance that limits new signage to sign districts in specified commercially zoned areas and who seek enforcement of and the issuance of citations to signs...



## **Now Is the Time For True Courage**

**Abby Zimet**

FURTHER-Brittany 'Bree' Newsome - the filmmaker, organizer, activist and aspiring Super-Woman who memorably, determinedly climbed the flagpole at South Carolina's capitol to remove the Confederate flag - has spoken out for the first time about her feat, which she views "both as an act of civil disobedience and as a demonstration of the power..."



## **When Did the American Civil War Really End and ... Did Shenandoah Really Save the Whales?**

**Paul Hatfield**

PERSPECTIVE - When did the American Civil War end? Could it really have been late June or early November of 1865? April 9, 1865 is the date widely accepted, and for good reason: it marked the surrender of General Lee's army at Appomattox, Virginia. It was a foregone conclusion that other field commands would quickly follow suit. In fact, they did,...



Plus, these CityWatch stories:

### **Costco: Free Range Liars!**

Christian Cristiano

### **'California Not in the West': Scalia's Bizarre Sense of Political Geography**

William Bradley

### **Putting Independence Back in Independence Day**

Jack Kelly

### **Bringing Imaginary Water to LA's Big Projects**

David Coffin

### **UCLA Professor Wants to Make Sure the Smartphone Doesn't Kill the City**

Zoe Mendelson

## **We the Legislature: Re-thinking the People's Role in Redistricting**

Joe Matthews

## **Kayaking on the LA River, I'll Be Back**

Joel Epstein

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